

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants would like to once again thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 16-20 are allowed and that claim 15 contains allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including any limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,243,109 to Anderson (hereinafter "Anderson").

In response, claims 1-11 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,474,091 to Russ (hereinafter "Russ").

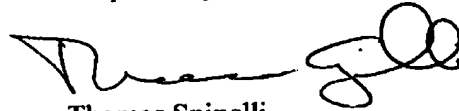
In response, claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 15 and intervening claim 14. Consequently, claims 14 and 15 have been canceled. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 patentably distinguishes over the cited references and is allowable. Claim 13 is at least allowable because it depends from an allowable base claim.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11, 14, and 15 have been canceled without prejudice and Applicants reserve their right to file one or more of such claims in one or more continuing applications.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli
Registration No. 39,533

Omnitek Partners, LLC
111 West Main Street
Bayshore, New York 11706
(631) 807-9747 (Voice)
(631) 754-1027 (Facsimile)

TS/